

7 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting With Robert T. GOFORTH (P), []

1. The undersigned, together with [] (P), met with Robert T. GOFORTH at the Union Station at 1615 hours on 1 March.

2. GOFORTH mentioned briefly the fact that we stopped payments to him for scripts, indicating that he felt he should have been consulted before payments were stopped. I had already indicated that I would see him next week and, since the time was short, he said the matter could hold since he would like to discuss more important problems.

3. GOFORTH then proceeded to outline portions of the Twentieth Anniversary Campaign and requested our support in this endeavor. He then cited the following specific points:

a. They would like to form a committee of prominent Americans with someone such as Clare Booth Luce to be a leading figure on the committee. This American committee would act to coordinate the activities of Baltic groups and to generate support among the American public. GOFORTH indicated that all individuals with whom the idea of forming an American committee has been discussed approved of it heartily.

b. Local committees involving the participation of local political figures and of prominent local Balts would be formed in all cities throughout the United States where there is a sufficient Baltic element. He indicated that the Balts themselves would be able to accomplish the formation of local committees if we were able to help in the establishment of the national committee of prominent Americans.

c. Similar committees, both on a national and local level would be formed throughout the Free World, in particular, in Canada, Europe and Australia. He indicated that coordination with other countries could be effected through efforts of the heads of World Baltic organizations, such as []

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d. GOFORTH emphasized the importance of propaganda planning in the neutral countries. (GOFORTH has had a long-term interest in trying to develop Baltic propaganda in Afro-Asian countries and has pushed this matter whenever he has been contacted by the undersigned regardless of the fact that he has never been offered any encouragement.) He proposed that press releases and articles be handled through an Indian contact of his and that available material, such as booklets, be distributed throughout these areas during the campaign. I indicated that we were turning our attention first to the United States, Europe and the Baltic States and that once the program has been developed for these three areas it would be possible to turn some attention to the uncommitted countries.

e. GOFORTH stressed the importance of arranging extensive radio coverage over Radio Madrid and RFE. (He was probably hinting that we should have him prepare special scripts.)

f. GOFORTH mentioned that a USIA film titled My Latvia, which was made approximately four years ago, is available and could be used.

g. He requested that we lend our support in arranging for the issuing of a special stamp to commemorate the Baltic cause.

4. We discussed financial support briefly. He indicated that although he and his associates in New York would like financial support, they felt that the moral and political support coming from us would be the most important contribution we could make. I indicated that this was a very realistic line on his part because, although we have a deep interest in the Baltic cause and will attempt to lend whatever support we can, the amount of financial support that we could give would probably be limited.

✓ SR/2/Baltic/EP